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MINUTES

OF THE ELEVENTH ANNUAL SESSION OF THE

Yellow Creek Baptist Association,

HELD WITH SOUTH CAROLINA CHURCH,

FIRST DISTRICT,

Sanford County, Ala.,

On 30th of Sept., and 2d of Oct. 1841.

GC

FAYETTE C. H., ALA.
Printed at the Office of the FAYETTE WATCHMAN.

MINUTES.

1. The delegates from the several churches composing the Yellow Creek Baptist Association, met with the South Carolina church, Sanford County, Ala., Saturday before the 1st Sabbath in October, 1871.

2. The introductory sermon was preached by elder A. Markham, from 2d Tim. 4—2, first clause: "Preach the word."

3. After one hour's intermission the delegates assembled in the meeting-house, elder A. Markham in the chair.

4. Singing and prayer by the Moderator.

5. The Clerk of last year being absent, Jas. Middleton, was appointed Clerk *pro, tem.*

6. Appointed brethren, T. T. Hilburn & R. L. Little, reading clerks.

7. Called for and read the letters from the churches, and enrolled the names of the delegates—See statistical table.

8. Organized by the election of officers as follows: Elder A. Markham, Moderator; Jas. Middleton, Clerk; T. T. Hilburn, Corresponding Secretary.

9. Invited visiting ministers to seats with us.

10. Opened a door for the reception of churches, when a petitionary letter was recieved from Fellowship church, which was read and the church recieved. Delegates, D. C. Hankins and A. J. Rector, to whom the Moderator extended the right hand of fellowship. Added to 2d District.

11. Agreed to attend to business as arranged on last year's minutes.

12. Appointed committees as follows:

1st.—*On Documents.*—Elders J. Draper, M. Keenum, L. E. Corbett, and brethren J. H. Shackelford and J. E. Graves, to which were added the Moderator and Clerk.

2d.—*On Finance.*—D. S. Harris, Aaron Pennington and G. W. Allen.

3d.—*On Preaching.*—D. B. Landford, J. E. Jackson, J. Y. Cantrell, together with the Pastor and Deacons of South Carolina church.

4th—*On Destitution* in our bounds and to devise some means of supplying the same.—Elders M. Keenum, J. Draper, D. G. Haskins, and Jas. Middleton.

5th—*On Sunday Schools.*—J. M. Dodson, A. Pennington and [illegible] Lewis.

The committee on arrangement of Preaching reported.—[illegible]. Pennington to conduct the Prayer Meeting, at 9 o'clock [illegible]ay morning; elder M. Keenum to preach at 11 o'lock A. M.; [illegible] Markham, at 2 P. M.

[illegible]ued to half past 8 o'clock A. M., Monday. Prayer by [illegible]um.

MONDAY MORNING, 8½ O'CLOCK.

Met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by elder J. Draper.

14. Read the Articler of Faith, Rules of Decorum and Constitution.

15. Called for correspondence. None presented.

16. Appointed correspondents as follows: To North River Association, elders A. Markham, Wm. Reynolds and L. E. Corbett, and D. S. Harris. To Union Association, elders J. Draper and D. B. Landford, J. H. Shackelford and S. Harrison. To Columbus Association, elders M. Keenum and A. Pennington, and J. P. Lewis and J. W. Jones.

17. Called for report of committee on Documents, which was read, adopted, and is as follows:

Report the Committee on Documents.

We your committee on documents beg leave to report, that we have had the same under consideration, and find only three items which claim the attention of the Association. The churches Hackleburg and Pleasant Hill, ask letters of dismission; also the following inquiry from South Carolina church: "Should a deacon's church letter set forth his deaconship, and is it right that a church should recieve him as a deacon on the statement of his letter.

Respestfully submitted,

J. DRAPER, Chaiman.

18. Letters of dismission were granted to Hackleburg and Pleasent Hill churches.

19. The Association recommends that in dismissing a deacon, the letter should state his deaconship and that he should be so recieved upon the statement of his letter.

20. Called for Treasurer's report. No report was recieved; and as he had moved out of our bounds, the corresponding secretary was ordered to write to him and request him to prepare and tansmit his report to the next session of this body, together with any funds remaining in his hands.

21. The former Treasurer, Jas. Middleton, made the following report: "Recieved at the hands of your Finance committee at the session in 1868, $14.50; paid for printing minutes $30.00; and by order of the Association, appropriated to my own use, for superintending the printing, $12.50, leaving in the treasury $2.00.

Respectfully submitted, JAS. MIDDLETON, Treas.

22. Appointed Jas. Middleton, Treasurer.

23. Called for reports from District meetings:

1st. *District*, To meet with Mt. Lebanon church, Saturday before the second Sabbath in August, 1872. Elder S. P. Row to preach the introductory sermon; elder P. McGee, alterna

2d. *District*, To meet with Bethel church, Saturday bef fourth Sabbath in August, 1872. Elder A. Pennington, t the introductory sermon; elder M. Keenum, alternate. session of the Association to be held with Shiloh chur miles South-east of Moscow, commencing Saturday b first Sabbath in October, 1872.

3d. *District*, To meet with Hackleburg church, Saturday before the third Sabbath in August, 1872. Elder Wm. Reynolds to preach the introductory sermon, elder J. H. Hendon, alternate.

24. Called for report of committee on Destitution, which was read, adopted and is as follows:

Report of the Committee on Destitution:

We your committee, beg leave to report, that we have evidence of a sad decline in some of our churches, and a deplorable want of ministerial labors, also considerable destitution outside of the churches, on our western border. We therefore advise that the Association first, engage the services of ministers, at an early day, to visit and labor in those destitute churches, to revive and build them up if possible; and in order to raise funds to compensate them for said services, we advise that collecting agents be appointed in all our churches, to raise funds for the purpose; and also to employ a missionary to ride and preach to the destitute in our bounds and on our borders as early as practicable.

Respectfully submitted, M. KEENUM, *Chairman*,

25. In conformity to the above report, appointed collecting agents as follows: In South Carolina church, T. T. Hilburn; Betharaba, G. W. Richards; Friendship, G. W. Allen; Mt. Zion, D. B. Landford; Walnut Grove, Isaiah Draper; Shiloh, J. E. Jackson; Blooming Grove, N. J. Morrison; Antioch, J. M. Trim; Friendship, R. W. Walker; New Prospect, Thomas Taylor; Mt. Pleasant D. E. Sizemoore; Mormon Spring, J. P. Hefflin; Ebenezer, F. M. Moore; Spring Hill, O. P. Godfrey; Union, A. B. Northcut; Mt. Lebanon, Jas. Middleton; Green Spring, W. K. Westbrook; Pleasant Grove, Jas. Cantrell; Friendship, B. H. Powell; Zion, Jonathan Taylor; County Line, John Motts; Hopewell, R. S. Bottoms; Fellowship, D. C. Hankins.

26. Agreed to appoint a committee of seven to constitute an executive board, to engage the services of ministers, recieve in charge the money raised by the collecting agents, and pay out the same under instructions of the Association, said Board to be made up of (as nearly as possible) an equal number from each district. The following were appointed, viz: Jas. Middleton, G. W. Allen, J. E. Graves, J. A. South, D. G. Gaskins, D. S. Harris and T. T. Hilburn.

27. Appointed Saturday before the 3d Sabbath in January, 1872, at blooming Grove church, for the first meeting of the Executive Board.

28. Collecting agents are hereby requested to transmit to the Board any funds they may have raised, prior to, or at the time of their meeting in January.

29. Agreed that presbyters of ministers be appointed to visit the declining and destitute churches and labor to revive and build them up, or otherwise dissolve the church, and give letters to all orderly members desiring to join other churches, and make a report of their services to the Executive Board at their meeting in January. The following appointments were made: Elders A.

Markham and M. Keenum, to visit Macedonia church; elders W. Warren and E. Nix, to visit Love Joy; elders M. Keenum and J. Draper, to visit Sulphur Spring; elders A. Pennington and P. McGee, to visit Mt. Carmel; elders M. Keenum and J. P. Lewis, to visit Bethel; elders P. McGee and J. Draper, to visit Springfield church.

30. Called for report on Sunday schools, which was read, adopted and is as follows:

Report on Sunday Schools.

We your committee on Sunday Schools beg leave to report that we have had the subject under serious consideration, and, from all the information available, we are led to believe that a high degree of negligence prevails in our churches generally on the subject. Your committee are of the opinion that Sabbath Schools, properly conducted, prove a valuable auxilary to the churches; affording a suitable opportunity of imparting religious instruction to youth, and of storing the minds of our children with the truths of the Bible. We therefore recommend that Sunday Schools be organized in all our churches, and that prompt attendance be given by all the members, and that a condensed report of the same be sent up by the churches in their letters to the association.

Respectfully submitted, J. M. Dodson, Chm'n.

31. Called for the Circular Letter, when the brother appointed to write stated that by reason of a press of business he had failed to discharge the duty; upon which he was re-appointed to write on the subject originally proposed, and present at the next session of this body.

32. Appointed Elder M. Keenum to preach the Introductory Sermon at our next session; Eld. J. Draper, alternate.

33. Read and adopted the letters to corresponding associations.

34. Called for the report of the committee on finance, which was received and is as follows: Received from the churches for Minutes and Associational purposes $35,50; which was, by order of the association, paid over to the Treasurer.

35. Ordered that the Articles of Faith, Rules of Decorum and the Constitution be published with these minutes.

36. Appointed the Clerk to superintend the printing of the Minutes and have five hundred copies printed, and reserve 20 copies for each corresponding association, and that he have $12,50 for his services.

37. Appointed distributing agents as follows: Eld. J. Draper in the 1st Dist., Eld. L. E. Corbett in the 2nd Dist., and Eld. A. Markham in the 3rd.

38. On motion of brother Draper the 5th article of the Constitution is hereby so amended as to authorize each church to send to the association three delegates, and no more.

39. The following resolution, offered by brother T. T. Hilburn, was adopted:

Resolved, That the Constitution be so amended as to empow-

er the association to take cognizance of a church failing to represent herself in the association for two successive years.

When it was agreed that the constitution be amended by the following clause annexed to the 9th article, viz: And any church failing to represent herself for two successive years, the association may, after due labor, drop such church from our union.

40. The following resolutions, offered by brother D. S. Harris, were adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the thanks of the association are hereby tendered to South Carolina Church, and vicinity, for their kindness and hospitality to us during our session.

Resolved, That the commendation of the association is hereby tendered to our officers for the faithful manner in which they have discharged their duties.

41. Read and corrected the minutes.

42. Adjourned to meet with Shiloh Church, three miles S. E. of Moscow, Saturday before the 1st Sabbath in October, 1872.—Prayer by the Moderator.

A. MARKHAM, *Moderator*.

JAMES MIDDLETON, *Clerk*.

Articles of Faith.

1. We believe in only one true and living God, the Maker and Supreme ruler of Heaven and earth; and he is triune in his nature, and revealed under the personal and relative distinction of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

2. We believe the scriptures, comprising the Old and New Testaments are the word of God, the only rule of faith and practice.

3. We believe in the fall of Adam, and the universal corruption of human nature, and the incapacity of man, to recover himself of his own free will and ability.

4. We believe in the doctrine of Election, according to the fore knowledge of God the Father, through sanctificotion of the spirit unto obedience; and that God, virtually, chose His people in Christ, before the foundation of the world.

5. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God solely through the redemption and righteousness of Jesus Christ.

6. We believe that God's Elect shall be called, regenerated, and justified by the Holy Spirit.

7. We believe that the Saints shall be preserved in Grace; and kept by the power of God; and not one of them shall be finally lost.

8. We believe that Baptism and the Lord's Supper; are ordinances of Jesus Christ, and that true believers are the only subjects of Baptism, and that by immersion in water is the Apostolic and only mode.

9. We believe that no Minister has any right to administer the ordinances of the Gospel, but one who is regularly baptised, called and has come under the imposition of the hands of the Presbytery.

10. We believe that none but regularly baptised members have a right to commune at the Lord's table.

11. We believe in the resurrection of the dead, and in the general judgement, and that the happiness of the righteous, and the punishment of the wicked will be eternal.

12. We believe that Jesus Christ authorized and organized the the Baptist christians while He was here upon this earth; and that the Baptism of John, the kingdom he preached, and the Baptists his successors as to organization, were from Heaven, and that there has been a regular succession of Baptists until now; which have preserved pure, the doctrine of the Gospel through all ages; and that the gates of Hell never has, nor never shall successfully prevail against them.

Rules of Decorum.

1. The Association shall be opened and closed with prayer.
2. A Moderator and Clerk shall be elected by ballot, who shall serve one year.
3. The Moderator shall be considered judge of order, and shall have the right to call to order at any time.
4. A member not satisfied with his decision, may appeal to the Association the same day, but at no other time.
5. But one member shall speak at a time, who shall rise to his feet, and on obtaining permission proceed.
6. The Moderator, when addressed for permission to speak, shall signify the same by naming the person or otherwise.
7. No member shall be interupted while speaking, unless he depart from the subject, or use words of personal reflection.
8. Every motion made and seconded shall come under the consideration of the Association, unless withdrawn by him who made it.
9. Every case taken up by the Association, shall be decided on, or withdrawn before another shall be offered.
10. When a question is taken up, after allowing time for debates, the Moderator shall take the voice of the Association in such mode as he may determine, and he shall announce the decision of the body immediately.
11. No member shall speak but once to the same proposition, till every member wishing to speak, shall have spoken; and no more than twice, without leave of the association, nor shall any proposition be made to close the subject, until the debates have been carried through.
12. The appelation of brother shall be used in the Association by members, in their address to one another.
13. The names of the members shall be called as often as the Association may direct.
14. Any member wishing to retire, shall obtain leave of the Mod'r.
15. The Moderator shall be entitled to the same privilege

STATISTICAL TABLE, 1871.

CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	POST OFFICES.	NAMES OF DELEGATES.	Rec'd by Baptism	Rec'd by Letter.	Restored.	Dism'd by Letter.	Excluded.	Dead.	Total.....	Am't Contribution.
South Carolina	M. Keenum	Big Pond,	S. Harrison, T. T. Hilburn, ...		6					15 2 00	
Red Abars,	Howell & Rowland		B Shackelford, J. H. Shackelford, ...				6	1		30 1 50	
Friendship,	S. P Rowland	Big Pond,	J. M Ayers, G. W. Allen, ...							13 1 00	
Mount Zion,	J Draper, ...	Big Pond,	D. B Landford, ...	5	1					49 2 00	
Walnut Grove,	P. McGee, ...		(1 Draper, P. McGee, J Draper, ...	2	2		2	2	1	57 1 75	
Mount Lebanon,	B. V. Sherley	Fayette C. H.	James Middleton, J. M. Dodson, ...	2	1		5	1		53 3 00	
Myrtle,	.....		(Not represented)								
Springfield,	.....		(Not represented)								
Fellowship,	A. J. Pennington,	Vernon,	A. J. Rector, D. G. Hankins, ...							43 1 50	
Shiloh,	M. C. Owings.	Moscow,	E J Jackson H. Pennington, ...	24					1	111 1 97	
Blooming Grove,	L. E. Corbett, ...	Fayette C. H.	J E Graves, N J Morrison, L. E Corbett,	1						74 2 00	
Antioch,	L. E. Corbett, ...	Morrow,	Wm. Lucas, F. F. Sizemoore, ...	8	1		4	3		31 1 50	
Friendship,	M. W. Reagan, ...	Vernon,	Anton Pennington, J. P Lewis, ...	2			2		3	91 1 50	
New Prospect,	.....	Moscow,	Thomas Taylor, J. F. Hawkins, ...					4		43 85	
Mount Pleasant,	L. E. Corbett, ...	Fayette C. H.	S. C. Webster, Daniel Sizemoore, ...					2		91 00	
Mormon Spring.	M. Keenum, ...		M. Keenum, ...							20	
Bibb thel,	.....		(Not represented)								
Spring Hill,	L. E. Corbett.	Fayette C. H.	John Lucas, ...	3	2		1			29 2 00	
Sulphur Spring,	.....		(Not represented)								
Bethel,	.....		(Not represented)								
Mount Carmel,	.....		(Not represented)								
Union,	B. Markham, ...	Pikeville,	Daniel Lockhart.	9	7					32 1 39	
Pleasant Hill,	W. R. Patterson,..		(Not represented)	2			1			81 3 00	
Buckleberry,	.....		M. L. Little, ...							1 05	
Green Spring.	Wm. Warren		(William Reynolds.	10	1		1		1	47 60	
Pleasant Grove,	Wm. Reynolds, ...	Pikeville,	D. G. Hankins, J. Y. Carroll, ...							21 1 5	
Friendship,	.....		(Not represented)								
Zion,	A. Markham, ...	Pikeville,	A Markham, D. S. Hariat				6	1	1	88 3 00	
County Line,	....		(Not represented)								
Love Joy,	.....		(Not represented)								
Mayrwell,	.....		D. S. Bozeman, ...	1	4			3	2	37 1 5	